

# Milwaukee County Stream Assessment

## Final Report

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Prepared for:



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## 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Within the borders of Milwaukee County, forty (40) major streams drain the four watersheds of Milwaukee County; Oak Creek and the Milwaukee, Kinnickinnic and Root Rivers. In the Fall of 2003, Inter-Fluve Inc. completed an assessment of the stability and fluvial geomorphic character of 140 miles of stream channels in these watersheds. This report describes the rationale behind fluvial geomorphic assessment in urban areas, outlines the methods used and gives a brief overview of the results obtained.

The main goal of this study was to examine the channel stability of Milwaukee County streams and create a prioritized list of potential project sites that deal with streambank erosion, channel incision, responses to channelization, and infrastructure integrity. Digital photographs were taken to document the above parameters and input into a GIS format linking spatial information, photos and field data. During the channel reconnaissance, potential project sites were evaluated and data was input into a prioritized project list whereby stakeholders can rank various projects based on their ecological value, impact to recreation, public safety and infrastructure, as well as complexity and cost. This report is intended as a supplement document to the GIS tool.